

- Q. Can RSAT be used for state prisoners held in county jails?
- A. Yes. If the prisoners are being held in the county jail long enough to be in the treatment program for at least 3 months. In that case, the RSAT grant funds can be used for local jail treatment.
- Q. Can aftercare be a free standing program?
- A. Yes. Although it makes sense that the applicant who had a local jail sub-grant might also ask for an aftercare program to continue treatment after release, it is not a requirement that the aftercare grant be structured in that way.
- Q. Would an MOU between a jail and the community mental health agency be sufficient for IGS in establishing the relationship between the two?
- A. Yes. An MOU is simply an agreement. We would need to see that MOU, or the contract between the two, or whatever other document you use to establish the relationship.
- Q. In the aftercare program, can the money be used for other things in addition to treatment, i.e., housing, job placement,
- A. Yes. Aftercare is meant to provide whatever transition needs the prisoner might have to move back into the community. That can include alcohol and drug treatment, along with others that need to be met in order to assist reentry and diminish the chance of reoffending.
- Q. Is a jail based or prison/corrections based program required before an Aftercare program?
- A. Yes. The After Care program works after the prisoner is being released from prison or a county jail and a jail/prison/community corrections facility could work with the after care vendor to provide the transition care that is envisioned by the RSAT program.
- Q. Are there other program models in neighboring states?
- A. Yes, IGS has looked at several other states and their programs. Also, the RSAT funding provider has a conference each year that allows for us to interact with our counterparts in other states. We will look at those states, and when information is obtained about programs operating out of a jail setting, it will be made available.
- Q. Is there or can there be a relationship between RSAT and drug court programs?
- A. Absolutely. The Drug Court judge does sentencing for defendants who are in need of some type of drug or alcohol treatment. That sentencing could be directed to the

RSAT program jail in that area so that the treatment could be provided in a regional basis if possible.

Q. Is there a difference between after care and post release treatment?

A. No. After care and post release are used interchangeably when talking about the aftercare program.

Q. Can applicants provide both jail based and after care programs?

A. Yes. The sub-grantee who provided jail based treatment to a prisoner would be in the best position to operate with a community based mental health treatment center (perhaps the same one that provided care in the jail), to provide that treatment after they are not in jail. There are other areas of assistance that are also available through after care, job placement/training, housing, etc.

Q. Can existing personnel count as match for the 25% match required?

A. Yes, with an explanation. If the personnel are provided for the program without any cost to the program, the same requirements for their documentation is required as for the federal money that is being used, i.e., time sheets, time and effort reporting, copies of paychecks (or direct deposit information).

Q. Will applying for additional funding jeopardize other existing programs?

A. Each application is reviewed using a metric designed by the reviewing staff. If one applicant applied for two different programs of equal merit, and we were only able to fund one, we would look in the program narrative or abstract for the application to see if the applicant indicated how the applications should be prioritized.

Q. Would there be a way to combine the treatment in the county jail into a continuum with the Department of Correction training so that they could complete the treatment after they get to the prison?

A. It would be necessary to talk to the Director of the ADC, and see if this is something that might be possible. A discussion was held in the pre-application meeting in Little Rock regarding how decisions are made in the prison setting to make the decision on which prisoners go into the therapeutic community.

Q. With so many state inmates backed up in county jails, the reality is that sometimes they actually parole or are released out of the county jail back into the community instead of to prison. In those circumstances, would the county jail be the one to work on after care?

- A. Yes, with some explanation. The county jail time frame for treatment is “at least three months”. It doesn’t say that it couldn’t be longer. The state prison setting is no less than 6 months and no more than 12 months. There is nothing that forbids the county from using that 6-12 month time frame for treatment in the county jail.
- Q. Is the segregation of treatment prisoners in the county jail mandatory?
- A. No, but it is preferred if possible. It is a requirement in the prison setting. The best chance of success in the program is to follow that rule of segregation of the treatment inmate from general population. Recidivism rates are lower for them when they are segregated and do not go back into general population before leaving the incarceration locations.
- Q. Are there caps on the amount of money that can be asked for?
- A. No, but in reviewing the funding level from the federal agency, IGS has given a general instruction that it would be hoped that a first program in the county jails would need more than one year to show that it is successful. Although applicants can ask for what they really think they need; our review of the applications will be made with an eye toward being able to fund a local jail program for up to three years to assure that the program is established and being successful in its goals. The performance measurement tool used by the Department of Justice will be able to track the number of individuals served and what the recidivism rate was for those individuals. IGS does not want to limit what any applicant requests, but if our first year funding level is at an exceptionally high level, it probably would mean that we would not be able to fund them at that level for the next two years.
- Q. Could this program be implemented in a regional jail setting? For instance, three small jails in the same general area going together in a cooperative agreement, and sending their treatment inmates to one of the jails, and the other two jails holding regular prisoners for all three locations.
- A. This is an excellent way to maximize the results of treatment through the RSAT program. We encourage jails in the state to look at this as a way to stretch your grant dollars for treatment.
- Q. Would an application be denied simply because a county jail could not segregate the treatment prisoners in its custody?
- A. No, but if there are two applications that are of equal merit, and one can segregate prisoners and the other cannot; we will give priority to the applicant who can segregate those prisoners. The performance results from these projects show that those programs are the most successful. If you are filing an application wherein you do not

plan on segregating the prisoners, your commentary on your application should explain why and whether that might be possible in the future.